

Some Arsenal Workers Get Pay Increase

Wage increases averaging 11c an hour for some employes at Joliet Arsenal's government-operated Elwood unit, retroactive to Aug. 24, 1952, was announced today by Col. Ronald B. Currens, commanding officer.

Col. Currens announced that the new wage schedule had already been approved by the Wage Stabilization Board and is expected to be received from the Army-Air Force Wage Board, Washington, D. C., by the weekend.

Col. Currens stated that the increased schedule would apply to hourly workers only and that there is no change in the salary schedule of "white collar" employes. According to the Army Establishment's pay plan—under which the Arsenal's Elwood Unit operates) hourly wage rates, so far as possible under existing controls, should reflect the "going" rates for comparable levels of skill and responsibility in the locality.

The current increase is understood to be based on Department of Labor statistics gathered on this locality in the spring of this year. Meanwhile, the Arsenal has requested the Army-Air Force Wage Board to authorize a new wage survey at an early date to determine if the current increase will bring Arsenal wage rates in line with "going" rates in the locality.